

threnody



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Word of the Day - for Toastmasters everywhere
Monday 20th August 2018



threnody

(noun) THREN-o-dee

A song, poem or speech of lamentation, usually for the dead.

Words from Swinburne's **threnody** on Baudelaire came to her mind. How often she had quoted them for their sheer pagan beauty!

Gilbert Parker, *The Judgment House*.

Where are the brave, the strong, the fleet
Where is our English chivalry?
Wild grasses are their burial-sheet,
And sobbing waves their **threnody**.

Oscar Wilde, *Eleutheria*.

The night was split with the dreadful **threnody** of the blasting guns.

Emile Tepperman, *Cargo of Doom*.

It would have been good to have more of a celebration of the joy of the biodiverse marine habitat rather than an anticipatory **threnody** for its extinction.

Richard Fortey, *The Guardian*, 17 March 2007, Guardian reviewing Steve Jones's *Coral: A Pessimist in Paradise*.

One of its hourly news bulletins accompanied the same flustered, incoherent footage with a musical commentary: a Mahlerian **threnody**, as if a symphony orchestra had been sent to Beslan to assist the journalists.

Peter Conrad, *The Observer*, 12 September 2004. The Observer